

Working Collaboratively between K-12 and Post-Secondary for International Student Pathway Success

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Identification of the Problem



- The K to 12 and Post-Secondary sectors (International Education) have not built capacity for international student pathway success.

Building capacity for K-12 and PSEC



- Why
- A Look at Data
- Current State & Challenges
- Service & Support
- Possible Models
- Building Capacity & Moving Forward

Building capacity for K-12 and PSEC: Why?



- All working very hard to attract and retain international students to our schools and institutions
- Have mandates for growth, diversity and quality
- How can we further support these students and one another as students move through our system?
- Number of findings regarding international student pathways in BC*
 - Stakeholder Cooperation

* Secondary to Post-Secondary Education Pathways for International Students in British Columbia: Summary Report (April 2015)

Guhr & Furtado (2014)



“BC university recruiters can better collaborate with secondary school counselors to identify these potential students and strategically target recruitment efforts” (p. 9)

A look at numbers: Canada



Number and % of international students in Canada (2015)*

Province	Enrolment #	% international enrolment
BC	95,035	27.3%
AB	18,900	5.4%
SK	5,545	1.6%
MB	9,545	2.7%
ON	151,755	43.6%
QC	49,455	14.2%
NS	10,130	2.9%
NB	3,855	1.1%
NL	2,370	0.7%
PE	1,275	0.4%

*A World of Learning: Canada's Performance and Potential in International Education 2016

A look at numbers: Canada



Level of Study of international students in Canada (2015)*

Level of Study	
Post Secondary	263,855
Secondary or less	56,090 (44,510 Secondary)
Other Studies	33,475
Study Level not stated	155
Total Study Permit Holders	353,570

*A World of Learning: Canada's Performance and Potential in International Education 2016

Challenges: Communication



- Communication with school counselors
- Communication with international students
- Communication between K to 12 reps & post-secondary reps

Challenges: \$\$\$



- Resources
- Time
- ***Are pathways important to your institution?***

Current Practices: PSEC



Post Secondary Direct Approaches

- Connect with staff dedicated to the international student population
 - district offices
 - ‘international’ teachers
 - high school counsellors
- School visits and presentations – recruitment and yield
- Post secondary fairs in district
- PSI fairs
- Campus visits/tours
- Designated post secondary rep for each student
- Drop in appointments

Challenges



- Students only want ranked universities, not applying elsewhere
- Language levels/preparation
- Lack of information/clarity amongst students on pathway opportunities
- Need to be creative on how to help students not meeting requirements
- Identifying the international students in the high schools and being able to reach out to them to provide targeted support and service

Challenges



- Different models for support in high schools – counsellors or ‘international teacher’
 - Who to contact and work with?
 - Changing ‘international’ teachers each year
 - Personnel changes in schools – lose contact and have to start over establishing relationship
 - Direct contact with decision makers to arrange visit or event

Challenges



- Influence of the agent
- Choices
- Expectation of institutional support during application process

Where do we start?



Post-Secondary & K-12

- Play nice in the sandbox & check institutional egos
- Make cross-sectoral collaboration a priority

What's Working Well



- Working with agents
- Bringing students to campus
- Personal connection with counsellor/international teacher/school district rep
- Counsellor and district office initiatives (i.e. District Fairs)
- Opportunities to meet face to face, network, establish relationship (i.e. BCCIE, AVED networking session, counsellor events)

Wish List



- K-12 reps to be more open to working with us
- Give options to students – community colleges, teaching-led universities
- Less promotion of other provinces, more support for BC education
- Building conversations between ‘international’ high school teacher and counsellor
- Publication about pathways
- International student specific events in districts

Northern BC Post-Secondary Initiative



- Format
- Grade 11/12 graduating international students
- Timeline
- Purpose:
 - Gather feedback on students' priorities and decision making

BC University and College Application Info Fair- Greater Victoria School District International Program



- 2 Sessions
- Student Participation:
 - Grade 11 and Grade 12 graduating students
- University and College Participation:
 - Six universities and Colleges in 2017 Feb
 - 14 universities and colleges in 2017 Nov



Case Study: Lan Phuong



- Graduated Victoria June 2016



Building Capacity K-12 & PSEC



- Regional Branding / Sharing Agents
- Joint Marketing and Recruitment Events outside of Canada

Building Capacity K-12 & PSEC



- Attend international education conferences together
- Regional meetings / events
- Cross-sectoral presentations



Tangible Steps Moving Forward



- Regular PSEC updates at International Student Program Counselor Meetings
- MOUs between PSEC & K-12 agreeing to collaborate on various projects
- Joint Brochures (with regional partners)
- Professional Development for K-12

Thank you



- Simon Fraser University
- The University of Victoria
- Okanagan College
- Douglas College
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Delta School District
- Burnaby School District
- Saanich School District